



Iowa Department of Human Services

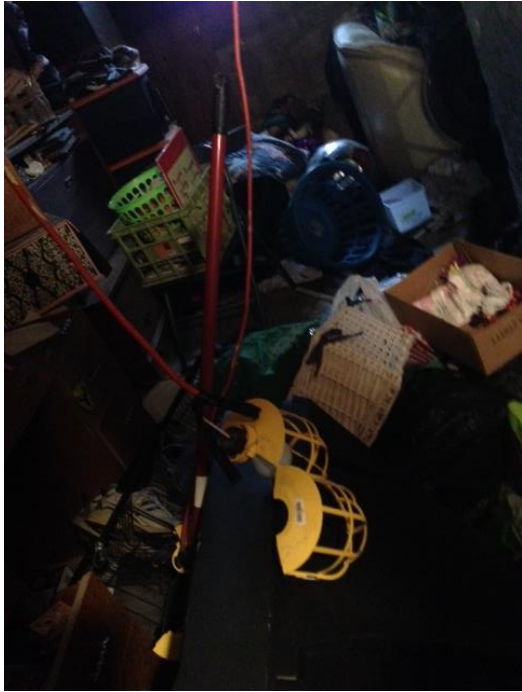
Terry E. Branstad
Governor

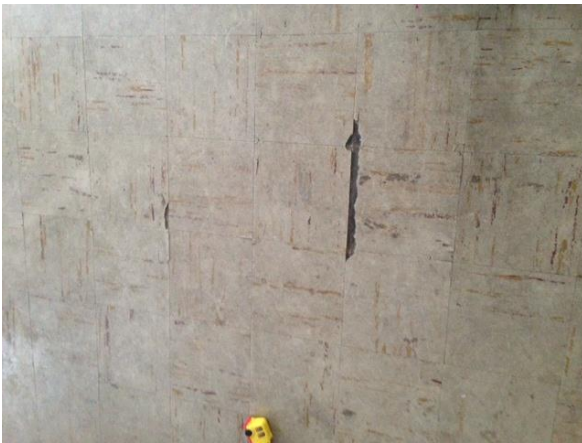
Kim Reynolds
Lt. Governor

Charles M. Palmer
Director

January 30, 2014

Date Complaint Received: 1/30/14
Complaint Received By: Chad Reckling, SW II
Provider Name and Location: Judi Wagoner 2119 Lucas St Muscatine IA 52761
Complaint: It was reported to the department that it was witnessed on 1/30/14 there are drop cords hanging down from the rafters in the basement and potential fire hazards present in the basement. The provider was sleeping in their bedroom while another individual was watching two daycare children. Rule Basis: IAC 110.5(1) Conditions in the home are safe, sanitary and free of hazards. 110.5(1)e Electrical wiring shall be maintained. 110.5(1)e All electrical cords are properly used. This means not found under rugs, over hooks, through door openings, etc.
Findings: 1/30/14 This worker went to the home to confront the provider with allegations that were presented to the department. There were 6 daycare children present. Judi was not present in the home; however, Amber, her approved substitute was in the home with the children. Judi did come back to the home later in the visit. This worker explained to Amber about the allegations that were received and Amber allowed this worker access to the basement area of the home to conduct the investigation. This worker observed several junction wire boxes that did not have covers on them with exposed wiring; extension cords hanging from the ceiling or draped over rafters; and extension cords plugged into multiple surge protector strips. This worker also observed several items of trash and dirty dishes in the basement along with several amounts of old animal feces (please refer to attached pictures for further information). This worker was joined in their observation of the basement by Ken Rodgers, Muscatine Health and Housing Coordinator Code Enforcement. Ken indicated that the property owner, Judi would need to clean out the basement of animal feces, fix the exposed wiring boxes and drop cords and insure that no one was living in the basement as it is not set up for a habitable environment. Mr. Rodgers also informed this worker that the bare floor tiles upstairs are 9 x 9 in size and contain asbestos backing on them. He indicated that this worker needed to be concerned as some sections of the tiles were cracking and pieces were coming off of them.





Judi came home and Ken and this worker confronted her on the problem areas in the basement and the tile floor upstairs. Ken informed Judi that she would need to clean items out of the basement and insure that it does not look like anyone is living down there as it is not able to be used as a bedroom. Judi stated that her son was using it as a game room. She indicated that she contacted her son at school about the condition of the basement when she went down there this morning and saw it. She stated that she would be having him start cleaning when he came home from school today and that she would enlist friends to help her move items out of the basement and get it cleaned up within the next two weeks. Ken and this worker showed Judi what was required for fixing the wiring and cleaning up the basement area. Judi stated that they keep the upstairs swept everyday and do not lay the smaller children on the floor. Judi indicated that she would be more aware of the floor concerns now and that she plans on covering it with the same flooring that is in her kitchen after she acquires her tax return monies. Ken indicated to Judi that she would need to fill in the divots in the flooring with floor putty and let it dry prior to putting new flooring over it. Ken stated that as long as she kept the floor clean

and swept up and then eventually seal it over with new flooring that it should be fine. Ken and this worker told Judi that we would be back sometime on 2/13/14 to check on her progress on items that were mentioned to her and this worker stated that they would give her until the end of February to get new flooring in the living room. This worker exchanged contact information with Ken and would be in touch with him prior to our follow up visit to the home.

Based on physical observations of the basement and and electrical hazards present in addition to the asbestos issue with the main level flooring this daycare complaint is **substantiated**.

Resolution: Judi will have all items noted of concern in the basement resolved by **2/13/14** and her flooring issue taken care of by **2/28/14**. The department will be conducting follow up visits to the home in order to insure that these items are addressed.

If you have any questions regarding this matter feel free to contact me at (319) 208-5521 or creckli@dhs.state.ia.us.

Sincerely,

Chad Reckling, Social Worker II
560 Division St, Ste 200
Burlington IA 52601